

Dear Al,

No need to apologize for your handwriting. It is much more legible than mine!

The owner of the local Block franchise, for whom Lil manages a branch office, is not well. He has to keep one office open part-time. Because of his health he has asked Lil to do that for him from the end of April until August. She will be working there three days a week. I will, of course, have to provide her transportation except in an emergency, when she can use cabs. This man influence when I can get to New York.

I have been writing letters about that. If any of them leads to anything, Lil will take cabs!

I have also been asked to make a speech not far from New York. What they will pay is almost nothing, but it will be enough to pay the transportation costs. So, I'm trying to make all the parts fit. I'll let you know if there is anything to know. If this comes to anything, it would be before the end of the college year. That is not very far away.

Because of the uncertainty, I am sending you the full Altgens picture. The black mark around it is the limit of the exposed part of the 35 mm negative. The scratches are on the original negative. Remember, in studying the details, like the right-hand cubb, that the 105 mm lense Altgens used entirely eliminated what was closest to him and results in distortion unless you allow for it. For detailed study, an engravers' lens is best. They are costly and there is not a great difference between one of them, which is 10 power, and the inexpensive ones like the Agfa Lupe, which is 8 power. Any cut-rate photo store should have the Agfa.

What you sent on the Littauer Foundation and the Littauers is helpful. When you can do it without trouble, these added things could be helpful:

A copy of the New York Times 1968 obituary on Kenneth Littauer;

A copy of that on Lucius, 1941;

A copy of the 1929 story on the setting up of the foundation;

and these things when you have time to kill, for they may take some time:

References to the Littauer Foundation at the time of the National Student Association scandals. I believe this story broke in Ramparts in February 1967. What the Times index shows for the Littauer Foundation for that year will be ~~sketch~~ enough. If it merely mentions the name without details, don't bother getting a copy. Just give me the references.

Any story that the Times printed in ~~1929~~ 1929 on the Littauer Foundation. It was established in 1929.

It is doubtful that there were other references to the Littauer Foundation in later years, but if you have time, it might be worth knowing if anything about it did appear. This would require checking the index beginning with 1929.

Max Wilkinson and Kenneth Littauer were both magazine editors before their agency was established. It is not important that I know which magazines. One edited Colliers. However, if you come across this without making a special check for it, I would like to know.

Everything is coming to life here. Flowers and some trees are blooming, the grass is beginning to grow (not nearly as fast as the wild and inedible ^{wild} garlic!). I cleared enough land during the winter for us to have a garden. Working that plot up by hand takes much time because it is uneven, full of rocks and roots and is delayed by the endless rain. We planted some lettuce and finnocci (do I spell it correctly, paisano?) because they are not killed by frost. However, they have been killed by rain. Lil is starting some tomato plants in the house, for transplanting after frost. Although the ground was too wet, I planted some potatoes yesterday.

Thanks and our best to Angie and the boys,

Sincerely,